

PREFACE

The Town of Bucksport last completed a Comprehensive Plan in 2003. The process for updating and replacing that plan began in 2012 with the search for a consultant to lead the planning efforts. Since then, the town has been through tumultuous times with frequent changes in leadership and the painful loss of the paper mill.

The writing process for this Plan has involved several starts and stops, but got solidly on track in the spring of 2015. The style of this document may appear more eclectic than past efforts as input from many sources has been solicited and compiled. The town website at www.bucksportmaine.gov has been used as a repository for drafts, maps and other supporting data. Keeping some detailed information separate has allowed the Plan to remain shorter and more readable.

MILL CLOSURE EFFECTS

A common feature in many of the coming chapters calls attention to changes brought on by the discontinuance of paper production at the former Verso mill site. The timing of this Plan allows the town to reflect on the many related impacts and to develop a strategy for adapting to the altered present reality as well as the prospective future.



HIGHLIGHTS

The “highlights” in this document point out significant accomplishments since the last Plan and identify issues for consideration. Bucksport leadership has customarily employed Comprehensive Plans well in order to:

- ★ Guide noteworthy changes to the town’s landscape and infrastructure.
- ★ Solicit grant funds for major projects and local programs.
- ★ Draft policies and ordinances to deal with issues identified in the Plans.

OVERVIEW/OUTREACH

The comprehensive planning process is thoroughly outlined by the State of Maine. A finding of consistency for a local Plan by the State is important in order for a Plan to fulfill its own goals and objectives. Perhaps more vital is that this Plan suits the needs and expressed desires of the people of Bucksport. That is why the Committee has made great efforts to reach out to the community and find out what people have to say through meetings and surveys. Five public opinion polls were drafted, distributed and tabulated. The results are posted on the web and some are incorporated into this Plan. A further discussion of collaboration may be found in the Goals & Objectives Section.

Text boxes like this one throughout the Plan contain key questions and criteria that the State requires to be addressed in this process.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to those who contributed to the drafting of this Plan since the process was initiated in 2013.

Name	Status
Mary Jane Bush	Current Member
Kathy Downes	Current Member
Mark Eastman	Current Member
Steve Feite	Current Member
Jef Fitzgerald	Current Member
David Grant	Current Member
Chris Johnson	Current Member
Hans Krichels	Current Member
Brian MacDonald	Current Member
George McLeod	Current Member
Diane O'Connell	Current Member
Michael Ormsby	Current Member
Sandra Robshaw	Current Member
Valorie Schaffner	Current Member
Larry Wahl	Current Member
Robert Carmichael	Town Council Rep.
Glenn Findlay	Town Council Rep.
Paul Rabs	Town Council Rep.
Byron Vinton	Town Council Rep.
Tom Martin	Consultant
James Bradney	Agency Staff
Susan Lessard	Town Staff
Jeff Hammond	Town Staff
Rich Rotella	Town Staff
Jeremy Daigle	Former Member
Paula Kee	Former Member
P. "Butch" Osborne	Former Member
Belle Ryder	Former Member
Daniel See	Former Member

DEDICATION

*1930 - Seaboard Federal Paper Company... Time, Inc... St. Regis Paper Co....
Champion International Corp... International Paper... Verso Paper - 2014.*

THIS PLAN IS DEDICATE TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO
LABORED AT THE FORMER PAPER MILL WITH A SPECIAL
APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO REMAIN TO HELP BUILD
A NEW FUTURE FOR THE INHABITANTS OF BUCKSPORT.

